

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph number [0007] as follows:

[0007] In a method for electrically testing a flip-chip semiconductor assembly in accordance with this invention, the assembly is tested using, for example, an in-line or ~~in-situ~~ in situ test socket or probes after one or more integrated circuit (IC) dice and a substrate, such as a printed circuit board (PCB), are brought together to form the assembly and before the IC dice are encapsulated or otherwise sealed for permanent operation. As a result, any problems with the IC dice or their interconnection to the substrate can be fixed before sealing of the dice complicates repairs. The method thus avoids the problems associated with conventional known-good-die (KGD) repairs. Also, speed grading can be performed while the dice are tested.

Please amend paragraph number [0008] as follows:

[0008] The assembly may be manufactured using a “wet” conductive epoxy, such as a heat-snap-curable, moisture-curable, or radiation-curable epoxy, in which case bond pads on the IC dice can be brought into contact with conductive bumps on the substrate formed of the epoxy for the testing, which can then be followed by curing of the epoxy to form permanent ~~die-to-substrate~~ die-to-substrate interconnects if the assembly passes the test. If the assembly does not pass the test, the lack of curing allows for easy repair. After curing but before sealing of the IC dice, the assembly can be tested again to detect any interconnection problems between the IC dice and the substrate.

Please amend paragraph number [0009] as follows:

[0009] The assembly may also be manufactured using a “dry” conductive epoxy, such as a thermoplastic epoxy, for conductive ~~die attach~~ die attachment, in which ~~case~~ case, the IC dice and the substrate can be brought together and the epoxy cured to form permanent die-to-substrate interconnections, after which the testing may take place. Since the testing occurs before sealing of the IC dice, repair is still relatively easy.

Please amend paragraph number [0015] as follows:

[0015] As shown in FIGS. 2 and 3, in a process 20 for manufacturing flip-chip semiconductor assemblies in accordance with this invention, a printed circuit board (PCB) 22 is indexed into a ~~die-attach~~ die-attach station (not shown), where it is inserted into an in-line test socket 24 or contacted by probes 25. It will be understood by those having skill in the technical field of this invention that the invention is applicable not only to PCBs, but also to a wide variety of other substrates used in the manufacture of flip-chip semiconductor assemblies.

Please amend paragraph number [0022] as follows:

[0022] Thus, this invention provides a repair method for flip-chip semiconductor assemblies that is less expensive than the previously described known-good-die (KGD) based rework process, because it does not require the pretesting of dice that the KGD process requires. Also, the methods of this invention are applicable to testing for both internal die defects and ~~die-to-PCB~~ die-to-PCB interconnection defects, and to repairing interconnections between dice and a PCB in a flip-chip semiconductor assembly, whereas the conventional KGD process is not. In addition, these inventive methods do not waste burn-in resources, in contrast to the conventional KGD process previously described. Finally, this invention allows for early and convenient speed grading of flip-chip semiconductor assemblies.

Please amend paragraph number [0023] as follows:

[0023] As shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, in a process 40 for manufacturing flip-chip semiconductor assemblies in accordance with this invention, a printed circuit board (PCB) 42 is indexed into a ~~die-attach~~ die-attach station (not shown), where it is inserted into an in situ test socket 44. It will be understood by those having skill in the technical field of this invention that the invention is applicable not only to PCBs but also to a wide variety of other substrates used in the manufacture of flip-chip semiconductor assemblies.

Please amend paragraph number [0024] as follows:

[0024] When conductive epoxy dots 46 or “pads” deposited on the PCB 42 at the die ends of die-to-board-edge conductive traces 50 are made from a “wet” epoxy (*i.e.*, a quick-cure epoxy such as a heat-snap-curable, radiation-curable, or moisture-curable epoxy), then integrated circuit (IC) dice 48 are pressed (active surfaces down) against the dots 46 during flip-chip attach so electrical connections are formed between the dice 48 and the in situ test socket 44 through the dots 46 and conductive traces 50 on the PCB 42. Of course, it will be understood that the invention is also applicable to other flip-chip die-attach methods including, for example, ~~solder-based~~ solder-based methods. It will also be understood that the dice 48 may be of any type, including, for example, Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) dice, Static RAM (SRAM) dice, Synchronous DRAM (SDRAM) dice, microprocessor dice, Application-Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) dice, and Digital Signal Processor (DSP) dice.

Please amend paragraph number [0028] as follows:

[0028] Thus, this invention provides a repair method for flip-chip semiconductor assemblies that is less expensive than the previously described known-good-die (KGD) based rework process, because it does not require the pretesting of dice that the KGD process requires. Also, the methods of this invention are applicable to testing for both internal die defects and ~~die-to-PCB~~ die-to-PCB interconnection defects, and to repairing interconnections between dice and a PCB in a flip-chip semiconductor assembly, whereas the conventional KGD process is not. In addition, these inventive methods do not waste burn-in resources, in contrast to the conventional KGD process previously described.